

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Violent Crime Coordinating Council

c/o Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 2300 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1515

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Dodge County Sheriff Jim Jensen, Chair

Plymouth Police Chief Michael Goldstein, Vice-Chair

January 29, 2014

Senator Chris Eaton 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Capitol, Room 321 St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

William Rummler, Chairman Steve Rummler Hope Foundation 5025 Park Terrace Minneapolis, MN 55436

Dear Senator Eaton and Chairman Rummler:

The Violent Crimes Coordinating Council (VCCC) was established by the Minnesota Legislature in 2010 to provide guidance related to the investigation and prosecution of drug crime. Dr. Gavin Bart made a presentation at our December meeting on the proposed Naloxone Good Samaritan legislation. We also had a speaker from the DEA who highlighted increased availability and purity of heroin in the twin cities as well as the widespread diversion of opioid painkillers.

After some discussion about liability, training and funding, the VCCC voted to support legislation expanding the administration of Naloxone in suspected opiate overdoses by law enforcement and other first responders. There were varying opinions on the Good Samaritan provisions so the VCCC will not document support or opposition, but leave it to individual law enforcement leaders to weigh in on behalf of their communities.

We look forward to the introduction of this legislation and support you in combatting abuse and trafficking of heroin and opioids in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

James J. Jensen

VCCC Chair Jim Jensen Dodge County Sheriff 22 East Sixth Street Mantorville, MN 55955 VCCC Vice Chair Michael Goldstein Plymouth Police Department 3400 Plymouth Blvd Plymouth, MN 55447